

Remarks

Applicants thank Examiner Gu for having a telephone interview with patent attorney Philip Lyren on August 28, 2006. Applicants amend the claims in accordance with that interview. Specifically, the recitations of dependent claim 13 and some of the recitations from intervening dependent claim 9 are incorporated into independent claims 1, 8, and 24. Minor amendments are also made to the independent claims to remove superfluous language to make the claims more concise.

In light of the interview and amendments, Applicants make a sincere effort to place this application in condition for allowance.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to Philip S. Lyren at Telephone No. 832-236-5529. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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